

PAX ET BONUM

WINTER 2024 VOLUME 20 • NUMBER 1



ST FRANCIS
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



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ON THE COVER

Celebrating the Class of 2024 who gathered with their families on May 23 for the Commencement Ceremony at Memorial Auditorium.

The *Pax et Bonum* magazine seeks to share with the reader the spirit of St. Francis Catholic High School. Stories and pictures of the activities and accomplishments of students, alumnae, parents, and staff provide glimpses into the ways in which the school's mission is carried out and its legacy continued. St. Francis benefactors are gratefully acknowledged in the *Statement of Community Support* each fall.

St. Francis Catholic High School

5900 Elvas Avenue • Sacramento, CA 95819 • Phone: 916.452.3461 • www.stfrancishs.org

St. Francis Catholic High School is fully accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Schools,
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DEAR ST. FRANCIS COMMUNITY,

The 2024-25 school year started with immense anticipation and exhilaration as we began celebrating 85 years as St. Francis Catholic High School. With our rich history and so much excitement for our future, we plan on celebrating all year long! For 85 years we have been an institution that helps young women realize their authentic selves, confidently pursue their passions, and learn to share their God-given gifts with the world.

Our current students don't have to look very far to have their pathways through high school inspired and invigorated. We have graduated more than 12,000 alumnae over the course of 85 years. That is a lot of Troubie inspiration to go around! This edition of the *Pax et Bonum* magazine features an especially inspiring group of alum leaders – our newly formed Alumnae Board. With Ria Flores '13 leading the charge, this talented and dedicated group of alumnae volunteers serves our entire alumnae community through their voices, collaboration and thoughtful planning. No matter your graduation year, you are likely to see a range of familiar faces on our Alumnae Board. We can't wait for you to get to know them.

Our regular readers of the *Pax et Bonum* magazine know that this fall edition is always a glimpse back at our graduation festivities, specifically the inspiring words of our valedictorian and salutatorian. With every graduating class I claim, "there will never be a class like this one!" And then God graces us with a group of seniors who remind us that our future is in their good hands. We don't just say we form future-ready young women for lives of impact – we get to see it in vivid and remarkable ways each year at graduation. Please enjoy getting a glimpse of some of the remarkable women of St. Francis High School, the Class of 2024 and our alumnae community in the pages that follow.

We hope to see you on campus during this momentous 85th-anniversary celebration!

In the spirit of Pax et Bonum,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fadia Desmond". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

FADIA DESMOND, PH.D.

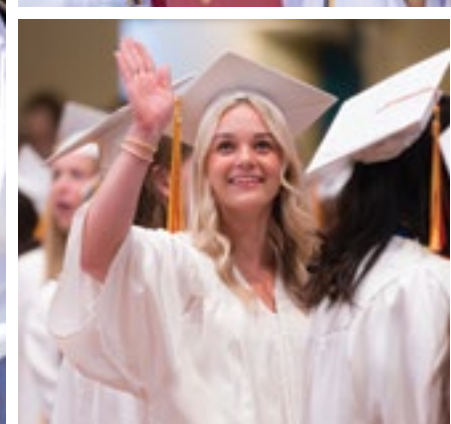


CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2024

Tacori Abril • Alana Aceves • Taylor Adams • Claire Allaye-Chan • Mikayla Allenbaugh • Camille Alvarez • Isabella Anderson • Yasmin Azar
Mackenzie Back • Hayden Baker • Elizabeth Barger • Mia Barsotti • Magdalena Becerril • Amelia Bell • Siena Benvenuti • Chloe Bessey
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Kyah Pickett • Sorina Pometta • Logan Purser • Lola Quintanar • Ivy Ramey • Simar Randhawa • Divya Rao • Jianna Reyes
Chloe Rhodes-Nguyen • Samantha Rickards • Kaitlin Riddle • Rowan Rigby • Ella Rose • Mackenzie Santos • Kennedy Seitz • Kiley Shea
Piper Sherburne • Karli Shill • Mia Siino • Amanda Silber • Summer Silvestri • Claire Simmermon • Sophia Simonelli • Isabella Siozon
Brook Smart • Jacqueline Smith • Sydney Smith • Tiana Smith • Jaylyn Domini Solano • Havana Sperber • Alesandra Stahl • Maya Sterling
Samantha Stevenson • Mila Stojakovic • Hailey Strange • Ryann Strawn • Petra Subakti • Maddison Sundermier • Kelsey Sutch
Dominique Sutliff-Soto • Jane Tattersall • Ella Taylor • Kayla Towne • Taylor Trafican • Leila Trevino-Choe • Atianna Vallejo
Madilyn Van Houten • Riley Van Rees • Pamela Vargas • Diana Vasquez • Natalie Vigil • Martina Vimercati • Lydia Vlahos • Isabella Wadding
Julia Wagner • Riley Walker • Kate Walter • Anita White • Lauren Witt • Sinclair Yadao • Victoria Yee • Birdie Young • Lillian Zeff • Natalie Zipser





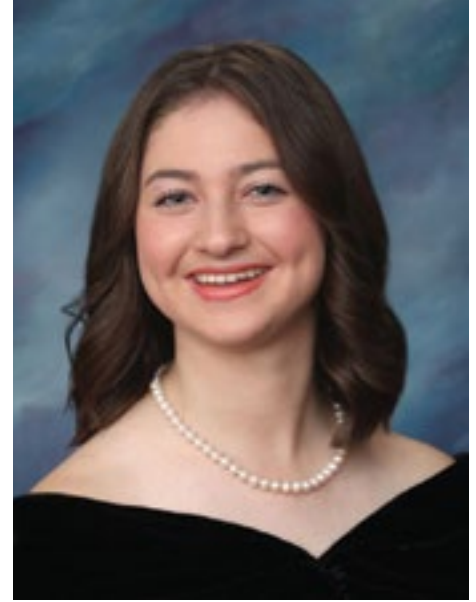
BACCALAUREATE & COMMENCEMENT 2024



VALEDICTORIAN

MAY CONLIN

May Conlin, a graduate of St. Mary Parish School, was selected from the top ten students with the highest GPAs of the graduating class. Her love for St. Francis has been evident in her leadership and presence in many areas of campus. She is also one of the recipients of the Pax et Bonum Award this year. She has participated in several extracurricular activities including Student Ambassador, Speech Team, Mathletes, Kairos Leader, 4-year starter on Varsity Lacrosse, and a member of our inaugural Flag Football team. May is attending the United States Naval Academy.



The following is May's valedictory address given at the Commencement Ceremony.

Depending on how many of these graduation ceremonies you've attended, you've probably heard countless speeches that go a little something like this: "Welcome graduates, families, friends, and everyone here to celebrate the Class of 2024 today. For the past four years we've learned and grown and now is our time to go out into the world and make it our own. We are going to do such amazing things!"

Now, I cannot speak to the sincerity of those speeches or whether or not any of those classes truly went on to do big things. But I can promise you that this speech, and this class, is sincere. And I truly do believe, with every ounce of my heart, that the 219 beautiful young ladies in front of you are going to change the world. But don't worry, like any good SF student who got through one of our wonderful English classes, I will provide you all with evidence to support my claims.

You see, I consider myself a bit of an expert on the Class of 2024. I had the honor of serving as our class president for three years, and now as president of our student body. And as incredible as it was to be Student Body President, the only thing I ever regretted was not being able to spend every single moment and bit of my energy on this class. Which brings me to my first piece of evidence: This class cares. Like, a lot. You do not know service until you've worked with any one of our Tinks on a community project or watched them go out of their way to support one another. And you do not know compassion until you see members of our class offering an encouraging smile in the halls or lifting each other up after yet another devastating dodgeball loss. Wherever we end up, people will be thrilled to know us, not just because of our intelligent minds or work ethic, but because of our love and our commitment to serving the people around us. And in a world full of so much hate and conflict, I believe this attribute will be our most defining. Throughout the school year, we lived by the theme "Finding Joy in Purpose and Community." But honestly, it never was too difficult for 2024 to embody these words. Joyfully loving each other and the communities we're a part of seems to come naturally. So naturally in fact that some teachers may tell you we can be "slightly disruptive" in class, but that's beside the point.

Now, the "purpose" part of that quote is a whole other thing. I'm sure most of us will tell you that, to be completely honest, we have no idea what the next four years hold for us, let alone what our life's purpose is going to be. However, what I can promise is that we will succeed in whatever purpose we find. My next piece of evidence: this Class of 2024 can achieve a LOT when we set our mind to it. In life, you rarely hear stories told about people who never failed, because those people have never challenged themselves enough to grow. My hope is that we will all fail several times in our lives. To quote Theodore Roosevelt, "The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena...who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly." But I also have absolutely zero doubt that whenever we are faced with adversity, we will find a way. Like when we were given the mascot of tinker bell and despite some initial frustrations, chose the most aggressive color scheme the world has probably ever seen to represent her: green and black. A first testament to the fact that our class could take anything and make it something competitive and unique. You know, not to brag but this class was the first one to construct both a floor and a ceiling as part of our homecoming decorations. And for the family members who are confused about the significance of that, trust me it means a lot and I encourage you to ask your Troubie about it later. Now, the funny thing about that project is, although it was impressive, it definitely could have been accomplished in more efficient, thought out ways. But we're a bunch of teenage girls with no degree in engineering (yet...) so things got a little sketchy. Failure. But as I mentioned before, failure means we were trying and growing, and what happened next certainly proved that. When the Class of 2024 hand-lifted a nearly 100-pound roof and held it there for almost an hour while screws were placed, two very telling things occurred. #1: the roof did not fall a single time. And #2: when people got tired or needed support we stood by them ready to go with a helping hand or a glass of water. When our class goes out into the world, I can guarantee that we will never give up in the pursuit of excellence, and that we will support one another through failures and shortcomings. After all, we've always been hopelessly devoted to each other.

As a senior class this year, we had our first shot at being real leaders on this campus. And leadership is one of those things that sounds really cool to talk about, but is also insanely difficult. Really, though, all it comes down to for me is whether or not you are willing to set the right example for the people who look up to you. My final piece of evidence: the class of 2024 does the right things when we're supposed to. This year we remained hard working and dedicated to the SF community, and that in turn made our school a better place, and it will remain that way for a long time after we graduate. Because of how talented this class is, it's nearly guaranteed that we will earn the chance to lead others often. As CEOs, managers, leading experts, presidents, politicians, commanders... I want you all to remember that your greatest gift is the person you genuinely are. I'm proud to say I've gotten to know each and every one of you the last four years and I know, with full certainty, that if you remain true to the person you are becoming, it will be impossible for others not to follow your lead. As women of faith, in each other and in God, we have a natural ability to command a room with certainty in our

identities and in a greater good. We've learned to see the beauty in every human person, or therapy llama, which is a trait that far too many leaders seem to now forget. So as you take on roles mentoring and making decisions for our world, remember what Mr. Will has always taught us, that love is greater than all. Go after your goals, but remember to love the people around you the way we've all loved one another these past four years.

As students we've all learned from the same textbooks, reflected on the same history, and appreciated the same novels. In the years to come we'll no longer be reading the same things, and for the first summer in probably ten years, we won't have summer reading. That is because we are now each tasked with beginning to write our own stories, new histories, and advancements that will one day be taught in textbooks. The world needs to hear those stories. So keep your head up, keep failing, have some faith, trust, and a little pixie dust, and we'll all be anxiously waiting to hear about your successes. As Troubies, we've learned to build ceilings...and now I send you off with one last reminder...to break them.



GRADUATES' PRAYER

ELIZABETH GIBBONS

Lizzy, a graduate of St. James School, is an excellent student and a member of our Science Olympiad team and has participated in our Volleyball and Cross Country programs. She has been a Camp Troubie Counselor and has attended all four years of our school retreats, including being a student leader on Kairos 97 and an awesome Retreat Team Member. Lizzy is attending University of California, Santa Barbara.

The following is Lizzy's prayer given at the Commencement Ceremony.

Gracious God, please bless the class of 2024 as we celebrate the completion of our high school experience.

Generous God, thank you for our support network of our families, relatives, and friends who have gifted us the ability to gain an education and a love of learning at St. Francis.

Loving God, thank you for the time to form meaningful relationships with classmates, and be involved in a community that allows us to discover our interests and thus learn more about ourselves, others, and You.

Bless us and help us continue our friendships as we pursue Faith, Excellence, Leadership, and Service. Give us the ability to take the lessons learned at St. Francis and apply them to our future endeavors.

Bless the class of 2024 as we continue to love others with agape, focus on our passions, and strive to form relationships with others similar to the sisterhood found at St. Francis.

Lord, ensure that we always trust the process, and ourselves in all we do.

Give us the grace and courage to push ourselves to succeed in making the world a kinder, more loving place as we remember that we are always loved by You.

SALUTATORIAN

DIANE KIM

Diane Kim, a graduate of Winston Churchill Middle School, was chosen by her classmates to give the Salutatory address. This Troubie has served in Student Leadership all four years, has participated on the Speech and Mock Trial Teams, and served as a Student Ambassador. She actively promoted diversity and equity across campus and spread her love for all Troubies by advocating for their inclusion. She is one of the recipients of the Pax et Bonum Award this year, the highest honor we offer to a student at St. Francis, who best exemplifies the qualities of peace and goodness through her faith, excellence, leadership and service. Diane is attending the University of Southern California.

The following is Diane's salutatory address given at the Commencement Ceremony.



Take a moment to pause and think about those people who have brought you to this moment. And thank them. Internally, please, no need to shout to the heavens in unison or anything, but it's important to me and I think it should be important to all of us to remember that our family – even those who are not with us – are directly responsible for the people we are. I would personally like to thank my family & specifically my grandpa, Lee Kyung Sun, who passed away just a few weeks before my graduation – as I know how hard he has worked to bring me to this very moment. The love and spirit of those who are not here with all of us today will still remain strong within us as we walk across this stage tonight, becoming high school graduates.

Now, I don't want to get too sappy. I'll save the happy tears for later, but I can't help but reminisce about our time together at St. Francis High School. Four years ago as I stepped onto the campus of St. Francis... within a Zoom Screen of course... questions flooded my mind: What's my purpose? Who am I? Do I belong here?

I came into St. Francis, four years ago, not knowing who I was or what I wanted to become. The beautiful women in the class of 2024 shaped who I am today. We sang, danced, laughed, cried, and grew alongside each other. Even with a world of unknown and scary new beginnings, we were able to seek joy and purpose through community.

But this sisterhood isn't created overnight. The magic we feel, the sisterhood that's immensely present, was only possible through our dedication to the four pillars of St. Francis: Faith, excellence, leadership, and service.

Faith: I believe that one of the hardest things to do as human beings is to place faith into something that we cannot see. However, the women surrounding me prove wrong every single day that it is possible. Whether it be through religion, hope, or love – my classmates have taught me the irreplaceable value of faith, and placing your all into something not visible. That is what creates such a magical environment: faith.

Excellence: We were lucky enough to be surrounded in an environment where our classmates are their own competition. Women who strive everyday to beat their own personal record,

to better themselves and those around them. I see excellence in not only the straight A students, but the girls investing their entire souls into art pieces on canvases bigger than they are, the girls who have sports practice after school everyday and get home at 6pm, the girls in mock trial, speech, MUN, the girls who engineer robots out of their own two hands... excellence surrounds us in all aspects of our community, where we aim to be our own competition.

Leadership: If a ladder was in front of you, would you climb up or down? I learned the important lesson that a true, genuine leader is one that climbs down the ladder to gather the people beneath them, and carry them up alongside with them. The value of humility, the value of empowerment. Yes, leadership is in the Senior Council, the SBOs, the CSLs, retreat leaders, and more... but each and every person in this room is a leader. By simply our existence, by graduating tonight, we are creating a world of further empowerment, engraving a clearer pathway for the girls who will come after us. That is true leadership.

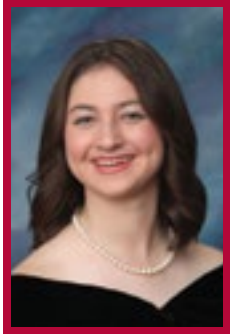
Service: During my AP Lit class (shoutout Ms. Kirstien's H Block), every Tuesday we share highlights from our weekend. Once, my classmate recalled when she got rear-ended in a slight car accident. A teacher who's never had her, Mrs. Barry stopped and helped her, and waited with her at a gas station until she knew that Megan would be safe. Graduating as a Troubie today means serving any of our sisters in need – beyond our mandatory service hours or volunteering. It means that with a drop of a hat, we'll be ready to support the fellow women in our world. I have no doubt that we will all strive to be like Mrs. Barry, ready to serve at any given moment to the people, the women around us.

It is clear that St. Francis has shaped our core values within high school, but our chapters don't close after tonight. It begins with new doors opening. Our story will continue as future generations of women fill up the seats of CEOs, artists, politicians, engineers, doctors, and more. It does not and will not end with us. It begins here with us.

So, from the bottom of my heart, thank you to the 219 women in the class of 2024. Congratulations! We did it.

PILLAR AWARDS

The Pillar Awards recognize outstanding contributions to our school community and are the highest awards that St. Francis bestows. Seniors recognized for these awards have demonstrated four years of commitment to our mission. These awards were established in 2002 by Marion Bishop who served as President from 2001 until her retirement in June 2012.

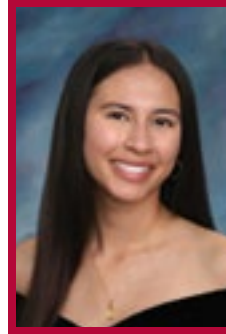


MAY CONLIN

PAX ET BONUM AWARD

The Pax et Bonum Award represents St. Francis' highest honor and is presented to a senior who best exemplifies the qualities of peace and goodness through her faith, excellence, leadership and service.

May graduated from St. Mary Parish School and is attending the United States Naval Academy.



CLAIRE SIMMERMON

PILLAR OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE AWARD

The Pillar of Christian Service Award honors a student who embodies the heart and actions of a servant leader.

Claire graduated from St. Francis of Assisi Elementary School and is attending California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

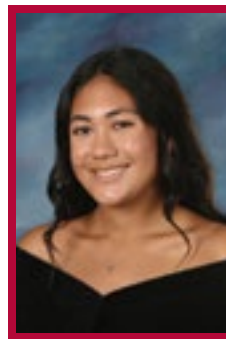


DIANE KIM

PAX ET BONUM AWARD

The Pax et Bonum Award represents St. Francis' highest honor and is presented to a senior who best exemplifies the qualities of peace and goodness through her faith, excellence, leadership and service.

Diane graduated from Winston Churchill Middle School and is attending the University of Southern California.



KELSEY SUTCH

CAMPUS MINISTRY PILLAR OF FAITH AWARD

The Pillar of Faith Award honors a student who, during her four years, exemplifies her Faith through her commitment to her love of God by loving others.

Kelsey graduated from Arden Middle School and is attending University of California, San Diego.

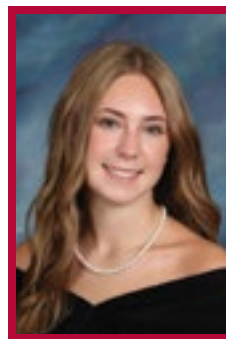


AMELIA CASTELLANO

TROUBADOUR SPIRIT AWARD

The Spirit Award is given to a senior who has shown extraordinary school spirit.

Amelia graduated from St. John Notre Dame School and is attending DePaul University.



SIENA BENVENUTI

PRINCIPAL'S PILLAR OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

The Pillar of Excellence Award is awarded to a senior for outstanding achievement who embodies Excellence put forth by our pillars, and everything she does is in the spirit of Pax et Bonum.

Siena graduated from St. Michael's Episcopal Day School and is attending Georgetown University.

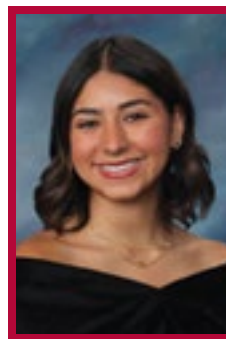


CHIDERA OKOYE

TROUBADOUR SPIRIT AWARD

The Spirit Award is given to a senior who has shown extraordinary school spirit.

Chidera graduated from St. Ignatius Parish School and is attending San Francisco State University.



LILLIAN EMAMI

PRESIDENT'S PILLAR OF LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Pillar of Leadership Award recognizes a senior with outstanding leadership skills and who has enriched the life of St. Francis.

Lillian graduated from Golden Hills School and is attending University of California, Berkeley.

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS



CAMILLE ALVAREZ
PATRONS OF THE ARTS AWARD:
CHORAL MUSIC



ELIZABETH BARGER
BOOSTER CLUB
LEADERSHIP AWARD



MARGARET BUFFLEBEN
MATTHEW BARTKIEWICZ FAMILY
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



AMELIA CASTELLANO
PATRONS OF THE ARTS AWARD:
VISUAL ARTS, FILM



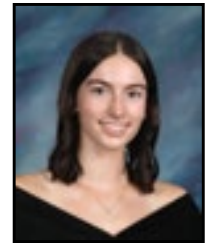
MAY CONLIN
BILLIE McCARTY
MILITARY SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP



EVELYN CORTEZ
PATRONS OF THE ARTS AWARD:
BAND



MIA DAPONTE
PATRONS OF THE ARTS AWARD:
VISUAL ARTS, DRAWING



GRACE DUNHAM
BOOSTER CLUB
SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD



VERONICA HARTONO
DENNIS FATHEREE
SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIP



MIA HERNANDEZ-PENG
PATRONS OF THE ARTS AWARD:
ORCHESTRA



GRACE HOLLEMAN
PATRONS OF THE ARTS AWARD:
THEATRE



CHARLOTTE HOLT
PATRONS OF THE ARTS AWARD:
VISUAL ARTS, PAINTING



FRANZISKA KUNGYS
PATRONS OF THE ARTS AWARD:
VISUAL ARTS, DRAWING



OLIVIA LEE
BOOSTER CLUB
CHARLES CHAN SPIRIT OF SERVICE
AWARD



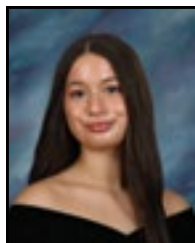
MARGARET LEONARD
PATRONS OF THE ARTS AWARD:
TECHNICAL ARTS



IVY RAMEY
PATRONS OF THE ARTS AWARD:
DANCE



JULIA WAGNER
PATRONS OF THE ARTS AWARD:
VISUAL ARTS, PHOTOGRAPHY



BIRDIE YOUNG
MARIE LYNCH BUTLER
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



NATALIE ZIPSER
PATRONS OF THE ARTS AWARD:
BAND

BARBARA WAKEFIELD GOYETTE '52 SCHOLARSHIP

Launched this year, the Barbara Wakefield Goyette '52 Scholarship is named after the first St. Francis student who attended and graduated from University of California, Berkeley. "I first learned about Barbara's story of graduating from St. Francis and being the first student to attend Cal," shared Beth Foraker, P '24. "She excelled in such a profound way that her academic performance was the proof that St. Francis needed for accreditation."

Her husband John Foraker shared, "Barbara's accomplishments are truly incredible, especially when you see how stacked the deck was against young women back then, educationally, expectations-wise, and all the rest. It's going to be so cool for these new young women going to Berkeley to know whose shoulders they are truly standing upon and to encourage them to fight even harder to advance the cause for true equality in our society; because, even in 2024, it's appalling how much farther everything needs to move to change attitudes, power structures, impediments, bias and all the other garbage in the way."

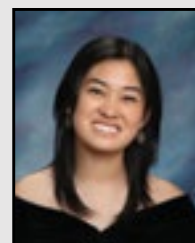
The nine St. Francis students, who are committed to UC Berkeley for the fall of 2024, enjoyed a special lunch where they were able to meet Ms. Goyette herself. They were each also awarded a generous \$1,000 scholarship to go towards supporting their UC Berkeley education.



CAMILLE ALVAREZ
NEUROSCIENCE



LILLIAN EMAMI
COGNITIVE SCIENCE



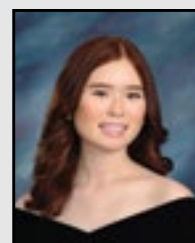
ISABELLA GUTIERREZ
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AND
COMPUTER SCIENCE



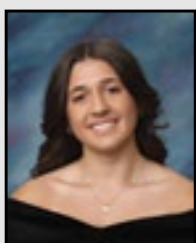
MIA HERNANDEZ-PENG
MUSIC AND MARINE SCIENCE



CAROLINE NIETHAMMER
POLITICAL SCIENCE



SAMANTHA RICKARDS
RHETORIC AND ECONOMICS



SUMMER SILVESTRI
MOLECULAR & CELLULAR BIOLOGY



JULIA WAGNER
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



ANITA WHITE
CLASSICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

LEGACY

CHRISTINA TROJA GUERRERA '89:
FRANCESCA '24, DANI '21, & GABRIELLA '19

Having our three daughters attend my alma mater, St. Francis was an absolute blessing. Although the campus looks very different from when I attended, the heart of SFHS is still the same. The girls were fortunate to experience the lively team-oriented student events like HoCo, learn from intelligent teachers that care about them personally, support their growth as Catholics, and make lifelong friendships. We're forever grateful for the gift of our St. Francis education and experience that shaped us to the women we've become.



MEGAN AWALT '98: CAITLIN '24

As a high schooler myself, I didn't know how big of a gift a St. Francis education would be in my life. Going through it for a second time as a parent gave me an entirely new outlook and appreciation for the education and experience at SFHS. Watching Caitlin thrive and try new things was such a gift! Knowing your daughter is safe and supported each day is something special that we did not take for granted and it's been such a joy getting to experience SFHS for a second time through her eyes.

JULIE NOVOTNY LEONARD '97:
MARY ANN NOVOTNY '57 & MAGGIE '24

St. Francis is more than a school. While we know we can count on the outstanding academics and extracurriculars, what we really love is the community. It's a unique faith centered environment for young women to realize their best selves, to be nurtured and supported through the valleys, celebrated at the peaks and loved all the way in between. St Francis is family. To see our connections continue through the generations is precious. It's great to be an S-F-H-S girl!





Taylor Adams
Keri Wien Adams '99



Ella Boyd
Marlene Montoya Boyd '86



Josette Courey
Mariann Isola '83



Ava Forte
Mercedes Chavez Forte '95



Francesca Guerrero
Christina Troja Guerrero '89



Caitlin Hafenstein
Megan Jones Awalt '98



Mallory Hawks
Leanna Kincaid Holliday '96



Samantha Holcomb
Colleen Snyder Holcomb '99



Claire Honig
Rebecca Stember-Honig '92



Kathleen Jones
Margaret Brothers Jones '85



Lia Kimble
Dina Vellutini Kimble '94



Stella Kinney
Mary Gonsalves Kinney '96



Margaret Leonard
Julie Novotny Leonard '97
Mary Ann Murphy Novotny '57 (Grandmother)



Kylee O'Connor
Jenifer Giudice '04
Wendy Lenoir O'Connor '82 (Grandmother)



Morgan Parker
Kara LaBella Parker '90



Ella Rose
Alison Rose '95



Claire Simmermon
Rosa Dinh '87



Alesandra Stahl
Ana Navas-Stahl '96



Isabella Wadding
Julianne DiGiorno-Wadding '91



CRAB FEED

DINNER + DANCE

JANUARY 27, 2024

A BUSTLING GOOD TIME

Busting at the seams, the 2024 Crab Feed Dinner & Dance was sold out before Christmas break, with large numbers of alum parents and alumnae (shout out to the Class of 1981 who made it a reunion) joining current St. Francis families for a great evening supporting a great cause – our Troubies. From a bustling bar to a delicious dinner, a delectable dessert auction, and tempting silent auction items, the crowd was warmed up to dance the night away to Clean Slate.

A true community-builder and fundraiser, the Crab Feed raised \$150,000 for our Troubies. Thank you to our sponsors, attendees, executive committee members, and the myriad volunteers who made this night another fabulous St. Francis memory!

See you at the Crab Shack on January 25, 2025! This event sold out before the Christmas break (take note: act fast next year, so you don't miss out).

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- BAR LEAD..... Josh Strawn
- CRAB LEADS David Johnson and Michael Hollar
- DADS' CLUB LIAISON..... Reuben Nazareno
- DECOR LEAD Kelly Zickefoose Frei '02
- DESSERT AUCTION LEAD..... Danielle Anderson
- LOGISTICS LEAD Martin Sandoval
- RAFFLE LEAD..... Lindsey McLaughlin
- SILENT AUCTION LEADS..... Laura Federico and Angie LaMar
- SERVER LEAD Nissa Swanston
- SPONSORSHIP CONCIERGE Laura McHugh
- VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR LEAD Amanda Goodman-Moses



TABLE L GUESTS



SUZANNE GENERAO, ALISON CHOW, STEPHANIE ARAGON, SARINA FAT



DARRIN & DINA KIMBLE; KERI & NICHOLAS ADAMS, TRACEY & HOWARD DINH, SHAWN & GREGORY HEISE, AND GUESTS



NANCY CONNOLLY, JULIE VAN HOUTEN, ASHLEE SCHEUBER, ANGIE CUMMINGS



MATT & PJ WELLS, JIM & LEAH McNEARNEY, LAURA FEDERICO



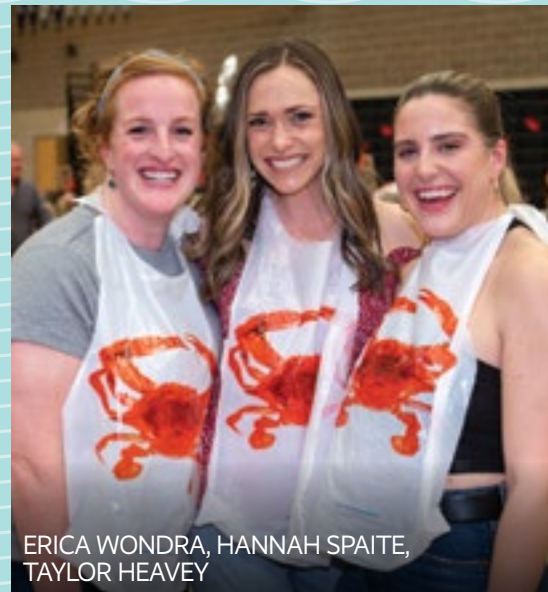
LAURIE POWER, MELISSA MUNNO, SALINA LANE & FRIENDS



JIMMY & KELSEY KHOV



JINSHENG HUANG & HELEN YANPING TANG



ERICA WONDRA, HANNAH SPAITE, TAYLOR HEAVEY



CLASS OF 1981



SFHS ALUMNAE



PRESENTING SPONSOR TABLE: KELLY & JUSTIN FREI AND GUESTS



TABLE J GUESTS



ALUMNAE PARENTS

THE 41ST ANNUAL AUCTION

Golden State of Mind



CHRISTIAN OKOYE, BEN & SHAUNA BORCHERS, IFEANYI EZEANI



JUSTIN & KELLY FREI



LAURA FEDERICO, KELLEY LINCOLN, BRIAN TAYLOR, GREG FEDERICO, NICK & ANGIE LAMAR



JESSE GUIDERA, RON WALDON



ZIA DEHQANZADA, RANA ATABAKI, LEILY & AMIN EMAMI



MOLLY RIEHL FLAHERTY, KEITH McLANE



JAMAL & KIONNA ROWE



ARIELLE ALLEN, ANYA HALL



FADIA DESMOND, SARINA & KEVIN FAT



JON & CARY OKAMOTO,
HEATHER & MARK GARCIA



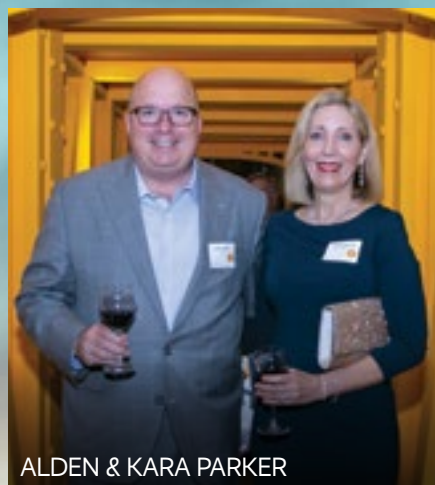
MARY & JASON KINNEY,
ANGELA DAMERI,
SHEILA SPRINGAND



JAIME DICKERSON, SUZANNE GENERAO,
NED & DEBBIE PAYANT, BECKY & KEVIN DELPIERO



PEJA STOJAKOVIC,
KEITH McLANE,
ARA KARAMANOUKIAN



ALDEN & KARA PARKER



CINDY & KEVIN McBRIDE, SANDRA & RYAN WHALEY,
DEBBIE DUCCINI HANSEN, HELEN PIERSON



BRENNA HOWELL,
DINA KIMBLE, KATE NEWBY



CHRISTINA & TONY GUERRERA

March 9th was a glowing evening of anticipation and excitement as St. Francis hosted its 41st Annual Auction, themed “Golden State of Mind.” Inspired by California’s “Golden State” nickname, the evening perfectly encapsulated the mindset that embraces success and achievement, capturing the bright, ambitious spirit associated with the Golden State.

A hallmark of our school’s vibrant community, the event showcased the incredible spirit of volunteerism and dedication that drives our mission forward. Under the adept leadership of Auction Chairs Sarina & Kevin Fat (Malia '26), and a talented and committed Executive Committee, the event was a resounding success raising over \$375,000. Their meticulous planning, along with the collaborative efforts of numerous sub-committees, ensured an unforgettable celebration of support for our beloved Troubies.

The event was a testament to the power of teamwork and community. Our dedicated staff—spanning advancement, facilities, technology, finance, and more—worked tirelessly behind the scenes to create an evening that not only entertained but also advanced the mission of St. Francis Catholic High School. Their unwavering commitment ensured that every detail was perfect, reflecting the unity and passion that define our school.

A significant highlight of the evening was the fund-a-vision paddle raise, aimed at outfitting the St. Francis Auxiliary Gym (aka Armory building) to include a state-of-the-art STEM Zone. The \$86,000 raised will go towards converting four rooms in the building into an enhanced Robotics Lab, a Science Olympiad room, a Collaboration Room and a Makerspace. These spaces will serve all SFHS students providing hands-on STEM exploration, and supporting the many co-curricular and extra-curricular academic teams and student clubs.

The generosity demonstrated by our wonderful sponsors, and the attendees during both the silent and live auctions, directly impacts the educational experiences we offer. This event is pivotal in sustaining and enriching the academic and co-curricular opportunities that transform our Troubies into future-ready leaders who are already making an impact on the world.

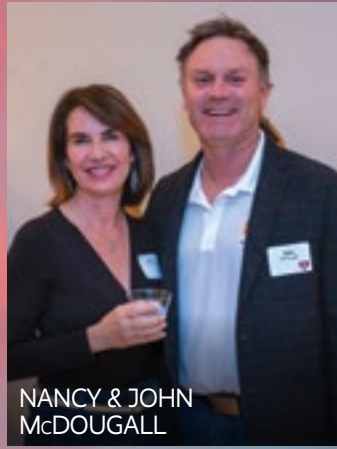
A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who supported the evening. We look forward to continuing this journey together as we embark on our 85th year and plan for our “Legacy in Bloom” auction event on March 8, 2025. Hope to see you there!



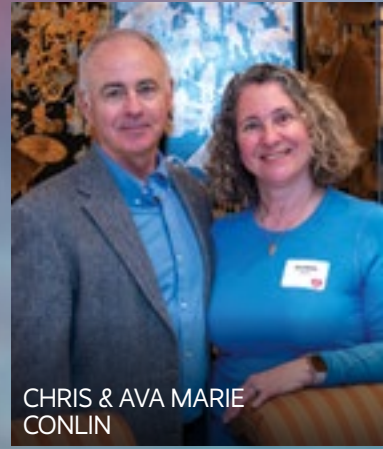
KENNETH FAT, GREG HEISE



BEN BORCHERS, KEVIN FAT,
IFEANYI EZEANI, JASON SHOULTZ



NANCY & JOHN
McDOUGALL



CHRIS & AVA MARIE
CONLIN

Sponsors Reception

Our vibrant St. Francis community gathered for a wonderful Crab Feed in January and our 41st Annual Auction, Dinner & Dance Party on March 9th. These events are made possible through the generous support of our Sponsors, and we are incredibly grateful.

Sponsors gathered for a private reception on February 20th hosted by Dr. Kenneth Fat, Grandparent to Malia '26, Eliana '25, Marisa '18, and Michelle '12. Thank you Dr. Fat for opening your beautiful heart and home.



THE FAT FAMILY



PHIL & ELAINE WESTPHAL,
CHARLES CARPENTER,
SHAUNA & BEN BORCHERS



KATHY LELEVIER, DEBBIE
PAYANT, SARINA FAT



JUSTIN & KELLY FREI, STEPHENIE
SHAH, KEITH McLANE



JULIA CLARK,
STEFANIE CRUZ
SHOULTZ



CAMEON & DAVID KROTINE



BLAKE GREEN, CHARLES PACHECO,
MARTHA SEQUEIRA,
KATELYN GREEN-SEQUEIRA



IFEANYI EZEANI &
CHRISTI CALPO



JINSHENG HUANG,
CHRIS CONLIN

Thank You to Our Event Season Sponsors

Your partnership in supporting our young women is what makes our community so special.

PRESENTING SPONSOR

+ Ultimate Collision Center | Kelly Zickefoose Frei '02 & Justin Frei

GOLD SPONSORS

- ▲ Mary Gonsalves Kinney '96 & Jason Kinney
- + Dina Vellutini Kimble '94 & Keri Wien Adams '99 | Royal Electric Company
- ▲ Sandy & Mick Malaney | Big Hairy Dog Information Systems, Inc.

SILVER SPONSORS

- ▲ Sara & Jason Bollinger | Fountains at Roseville
- + Shauna & Ben Borchers
- Tracey & Howard Dinh
- + Mary '67 & Dennis Ellingson
- + Kenneth Fat, DDS
- Hope & Matt Gawlick
- + Habeeb & Associates Architects
- + Dr. Greg Heise
- + May & Ifeanyi Ezeani
- + Yanping Tang & Jinsheng Huang
- ▲ Hiep Vu & My Thieu | H2 Autobody Inc
- + Willow Point Vineyards | Charles A. Pacheco & Martha Sequeira

BRONZE SPONSORS

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- + Alexxa DeBenedetti
- ▲ EPIC Insurance Brokers & Consultants | Elaine & Phil Westphal
- + Diana Fat, DDS and Charles Carpenter, MD
- ▲ Sarina & Kevin Fat
- + Cherilyn & Frank Graham
- Meg & John Kesich | Pac Machine Company Inc.
- + Kelsey & Jimmy Khov | Miyagi Bar and Sushi, Poke Noke, The Alibi Bar and Mattone Ristorante
- ▲ Meghan '01 & Dirk Korte | MK Influence
- + David & Cameon Krotine | Pioneer Law Group LLP
- + Little Whale Swim School | Anya Hall
- + The Malone Family
- ▲ NRG Pros Roofing
- ▲ Kara LaBella Parker '90 & Alden Parker
- # Debbie & Ned Payant
- ▲ Sacramento SPCA | Kathy Lelevier & Richard Rose
- ▲ Tsakopoulos Investments | Katherine Tsakopoulos & Socrates Stamatidis
- Samantha Williams & Richard Ericson

AUCTION WINE SPONSOR: Stephenie & Cyril Shah

AUCTION CHAMPAGNE SPONSOR: Pac Machine Company Inc. | The Kesich Family

CRAB FEED SHIPWRECK SPONSOR: Josh Strawn

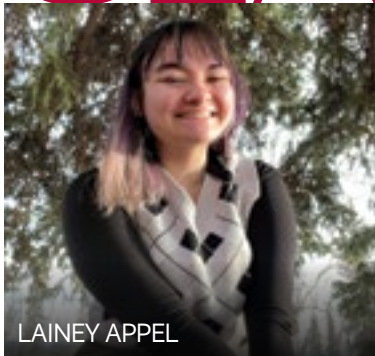
CRAB FEED BEER SPONSOR: Josh Strawn • Urban Roots Brewery & Smokehouse

SPONSOR APPRECIATION:

Monica & George Biery | Biery Family Farmacy • Friends of St. Francis • Ternero Farms/TerneroOliveOil

+ PLUS Sponsorship ● Crab Feed Sponsorship ▲ Auction Sponsorship

CLASS OF 2020



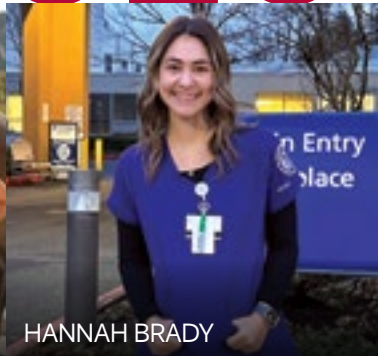
LAINEY APPEL



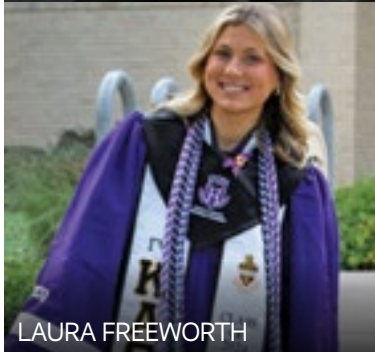
KAITLYN BACK



CLAIRE BASSEL



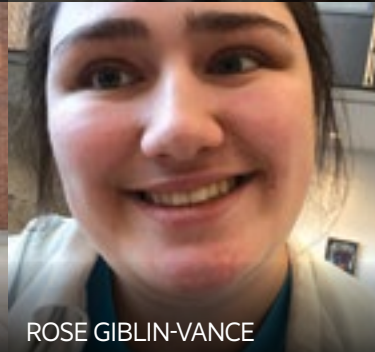
HANNAH BRADY



LAURA FREEWORTH



FIONA GALVIN



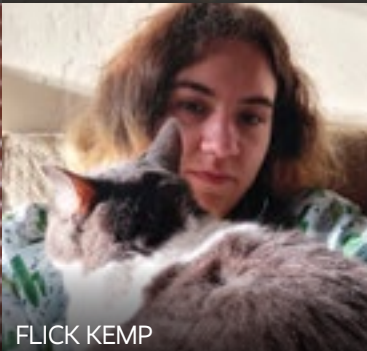
ROSE GIBLIN-VANCE



KATE GOURLEY



ANDRALEE HARMON



FLICK KEMP



ELLIE MUELLER



GABRIELLA PERKINS



KIMBERLY RILEY, KATE OLARIO, AMANDA SIY, HAYLEY SILVA



CLAIRE SIMON



CAMRYN (SMITH) TAYLOR



SUHANNAH SOMAN



JULIANA VENEGAS



SYDNIE YOUNG

LAINY APPEL is graduating from the University of Alaska Fairbanks with a degree in Accounting. Lainey held multiple accounting internships, most recently an Assurance Internship with BDO in Anchorage. After graduating this winter, she intends to pursue an MBA and a CPA license.

KAITLYN BACK graduated from the University of Georgia with a degree in Computer Science. Following graduation, she began working in Starbucks' Global Security department in Seattle, WA.

CLAIRE BASSEL graduated from the University of Colorado Boulder with a degree in Chemical Engineering. She will be attending graduate school in Padova, Italy to receive her Masters in Sustainable Chemistry and Technologies for a Circular Economy from the University of Padova.

HANNAH BRADY graduated from the University of Portland with a Nursing degree.

LAURA FREEWORTH graduated from Texas Christian University with a BS in Nursing. She graduated with Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Honors Society recognition, Upper Division Honors, Lower Division Honors, and also wrote and published a research thesis studying the effects of diabetes mellitus on endothelial function.

FIONA GALVIN graduated from the University of Utah with a BS in Kinesiology, a Psychology Minor, and a BFA in Ballet. She will be dancing with the Sacramento Ballet as a Second Company member for the 2024/2025 season.

ROSE GIBLIN-VANCE graduated from Macalester College with a BA. She graduated with a critical language scholarship and was an honors thesis recipient.

KATE GOURLEY graduated from the College of the Holy Cross with a BA in Accounting and minors in French & Francophone Studies and Studio Art. She was within the top percentage of her class and was involved as a chief editor for the economics newspaper on campus. Following graduation, she accepted a Junior Audit Associate position at Ernst & Young within their Banking & Capital Markets practice and is pursuing her CPA.

ANDRALEE HARMON graduated from the University of Tampa with a BS in Criminology and Criminal Justice and a minor in Sociology. Following graduation, she began working at the Tampa Florida State Attorney's Office in the Victim Assistance Program.

BRIDGET "FLICK" KEMP graduated from the University of Idaho with a BS in History and Political Science. She was awarded outstanding junior in Political Science and was president of the Pi-Theta chapter of Phi Alpha Theta. This fall she began graduate school at UCL.

ELLIE MUELLER graduated from Colorado School of Mines with a BS in Metallurgical and Materials Engineering. Following graduation, she began attending Santa Clara University School of Law in the Public Interest JD program.

GABRIELLA PERKINS graduated Summa Cum Laude from Texas Christian University with a BA in English and Italian. Gabby will be pursuing her Master's at UT Arlington and secured her first full-time job as an Apprentice Teacher at Great Hearts Arlington.

KIMBERLY RILEY graduated Summa Cum Laude from USC with a BA in Political Science and a minor in Legal Studies. She received a four-year full scholarship from the US Army ROTC to attend and join their Trojan Battalion. Following graduation, as a newly commissioned Second Lieutenant, Kimberly headed to Fort Knox, Kentucky to begin her service in the Signal Corps for the United States Army.

HALEY SILVA graduated on the Dean's list from UC Berkeley with a degree in Nutritional Sciences and Dietetics. Following graduation, she is applying to a Direct Entry Master of Science in Nursing program.

CLAIRE SIMON graduated from Saint Mary's College of California with a degree in Business Administration and a concentration in Marketing.

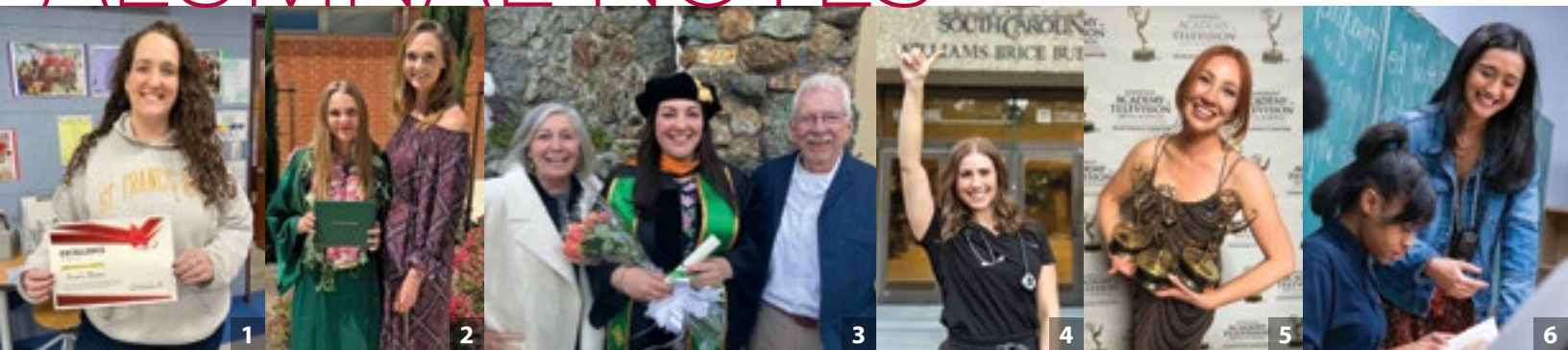
SUHANNAH SOMAN graduated from Baylor University with a BS in Molecular and Cell Biology. Following graduation, she began Graduate School to receive her Master of Science in Medical Science.

CAMRYN (SMITH) TAYLOR graduated from Grand Canyon University with a BS in Nursing.

JULIANA VENEGAS graduated Magna Cum Laude from Loyola Marymount University with a BS in Biology. She was awarded Teaching Assistant of the Year (2024) and Beta Beta Beta Research Grant (2022).

SYDNIE YOUNG graduated on the Honor Roll from Texas Christian University with a BS in Allied Health and a minor in Psychology. Following graduation, she began a masters program for Speech Language Pathology.

ALUMNAE NOTES



Jeanne DeFazio '68 has edited another book, *Otto & The White Dove*. Her new book chronicles the life of Otto Kruger and engineering professor at the University of Leipzig, Germany.

Christina Murdoch '87 is the Executive Director of the UC Davis Center for Applied Policy in Education (CAP-Ed). She traveled to Bavaria, Germany last summer to meet with members of parliament, other policy makers and education leaders.

Sarah Martin '02 is an international middle school teacher at Seoul Foreign School, a Christian private school in Seoul, South Korea. In true Troubie fashion, she was recently recognized for excellence in service. **1**

Sarah Kotko '04 has been appointed as President of the Yuba-Sutter-Colusa United Way. Leveraging her extensive background in community resilience and strategic collaboration, she is eager to help steer this remarkable organization towards new heights. She also received the Infant-Family and Early Childhood Mental Health Specialist (IFEC-TMHP) Endorsement from the California Center for Infant-Family and Early Childhood Mental Health. This achievement, combined with her solid foundation in Early Childhood Education, and position with First 5 Yuba County, empowers her to further champion the healthy development and well-being of children and families in my community.

Audrey (Wood) Surridge '05 was elected President of the Lawyers Club of San Diego, and began her term last July. Lawyers Club is San Diego's largest specialty bar association, and its mission is to advance the status of women in the law and society. Audrey practices employment law at Fisher & Phillips, where she represents employers in a variety of employment disputes. She also frequently conducts workplace investigations and counsels her clients in developing effective policies and practices. Audrey has been recognized as a Super Lawyer Rising Star. Audrey earned her Juris Doctor from University of San Diego School of Law, cum laude. She lives in San Diego with her husband and two spoiled dogs.

Hannah Dayton '06 continues to make remarkable strides in a predominantly male field, leading change in school district maintenance and facilities. From hands-on work at construction sites to spearheading discussions on improving student environments, Hannah is reshaping school facility culture. A recent graduate from both the Coalition for Adequate School Housing Leadership Program and the Chamber of Commerce Lincoln Leadership Program, she introduced an Energy Management Competition and helped create a self-guided historical tour in Lincoln. She's a proud Troubie and parent of Adeline Ritchie '28. **2**

In May, **Lindsey Ward '09** completed the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program through the University of San Francisco and passed her boards in July 2024. The DNP prepares nurses for advanced clinical practice and leadership roles in healthcare. **3**

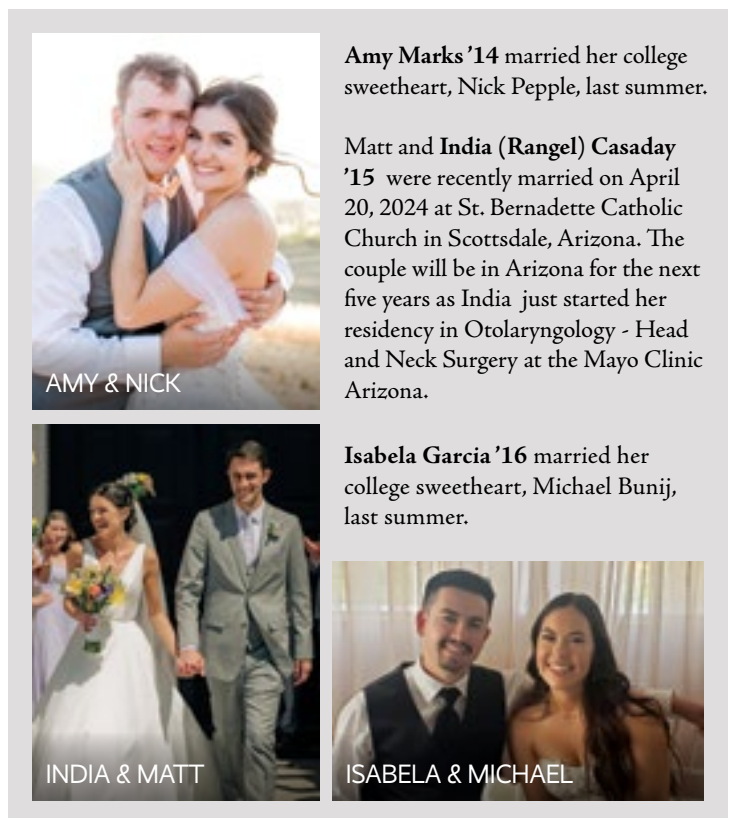
Sam Bauer '10 launched her own wine label, Mantha Wine Co. You will be able to find her wines at several local restaurants including Kru.

Christine Luetke '11 graduated last summer with a Master's Degree in Nursing (MSN) from the University of South Carolina. She accepted a position with Baylor University Medical Center in the Thoracic Surgery and Pulmonary Transplant Stepdown ICU and moved to Dallas, Texas last fall. **4**

Congratulations to **Leah Pezzetti Horner '13** for winning three NATAS NW Emmy awards! She earned awards for best meteorologist, her work as a solo video journalist and for her story about the annular eclipse in Oregon. **5**

In August 2023, **Sarah Mumper '14** joined Swinerton Builders as Project Field Admin. She is also a member of the Patient Advisory Council (PAC) for the FD/MAS Alliance (non-profit).

Approaching her fifth year with Deloitte Consulting, **Isabella Lee '15** was recently promoted to Senior Consultant, a challenging level in the firm to attain. She continues her work in providing Salesforce CRM solutions (design and implementation) to Government & Public Service clients nationwide, currently working with the great State of California.



Amy Marks '14 married her college sweetheart, Nick Peple, last summer.

Matt and India (Rangel) Casaday '15 were recently married on April 20, 2024 at St. Bernadette Catholic Church in Scottsdale, Arizona. The couple will be in Arizona for the next five years as India just started her residency in Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery at the Mayo Clinic Arizona.

Isabela Garcia '16 married her college sweetheart, Michael Bunij, last summer.



Alexandra Retodo '17 was a 2021 Teach for America Corps Member, now Alum. She was recently appointed Dean of Academics at the United Schools Network in Columbus, Ohio. United Schools is a free public Charter school whose mission is to serve communities that have historically experienced educational inequity. They hold high academic expectations for their students and model a “college-prep” mindset, encouraging young people to see the possibilities for themselves higher education can bring. In addition to her new role, Alexandra remains dedicated to teaching and mentoring her 8th grade science class. **6**

Reesa Arts '18 graduated from the #1 School of Nursing, Duke University in May 2024 as a Registered Nurse with Sigma Theta Tau honors. At Duke, Reesa shared her passion for leadership and student engagement as a first-year/International Student Resident Advisor, and as the Graduate Assistant for Duke University Union, the college's largest programming body. She spent her final nursing school semester in a Preceptorship at Duke University's Health System's Level IV Neonatal Intensive Care Nursery. Post-Nursing school graduation, Reesa will be furthering her education with a PhD in Indigenous and Rural Health Studies at Montana State University. **7**

Nicole Hopkins '18 graduated in May 2024 with her Master's degree in Adult and Higher Education from Montana State University. She maintained a 4.0 GPA and secured a full-time job working in Academic Technology and Outreach at MSU as a Digital Literacy Specialist, a position that the office created for her. She is excited about supporting digital learning technologies in the classroom as developing research on the effects of the application of these tools to develop and support students' digital literacy skills. **8**

Jessica Oloriz '18 just graduated from Creighton University with a PharmD. She will be working at CHI Health CUMC - Bergan Mercy as a PGY1 Pharmacy Resident starting in the summer of 2024. **9**

Brynne Burrows '19 is currently pursuing a Master's of Public Health in Community Health Sciences at UCLA's Fielding School of Public Health. She graduated with degrees in Human Biology and Society and Spanish Community and Culture from UCLA in 2023. During the summer of 2023, Brynne spent time in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala conducting anthropometry and aging research under Dr. Noel Solomons and his team at CeSSIAM. Brynne was invited to present her research in Guatemala at the American Society of Nutrition conference held this summer in Chicago. An added bonus was taking her mother with her to see the presentation and enjoy the city.

Maggie Enriquez '19 graduated from Viterbo University Conservatory for the Performing Arts with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music Theatre and a minor in dance in May 13, 2023. Following graduation, Maggie has a position as a teaching artist with the NorCal School of the Arts.

Kiarah Hewitt '19 earned her Master's in Social Sciences from the University of Chicago and is starting her first professional job assignment as an Admissions Counselor at Chapman University. **10**

Jenna Pimenta '19 graduated in three years from UCLA with a B.S. in Neuroscience and a Philosophy minor. She remains passionate about research and will be at a lab at the Brain Research Institute, UCLA before applying to Graduate school. **11**

After brilliant collegiate soccer seasons at both UC Santa Barbara and UC Davis, **Lindsey Porter '19** signed her first professional contract with ŽNK Osijek, a Croatian professional women's football club. Founded in 1990, it is the most successful team in Croatian women's football with 24 Croatian championship titles. **12**

Peyton Spellacy '20, an alumna of Troubie TV, St. Francis tennis and the Sports Media Club, will soon launch her career as part of the KOAT Action 7 news team! The Albuquerque-Santa Fe designated market area ranks 49th, so this is an impressive start for such a recent graduate. “I can't wait to shine a spotlight on the vibrant and inspiring stories in New Mexico. Local news serves as a crucial connection for communities, and I'm honored to play a part in telling these stories,” shared Peyton.

Isabella McCullough '22 joined the Mexico Women's National Lacrosse team in 2022 helping them place in a historic 15th place at the 2022 World Lacrosse Women's Lacrosse World Cup in Towson, Maryland. One of the team's goalies, Bella was named to World Lacrosse's list of top goalies of 2022, particularly for her 8 saves on 9 shots during the team's victory against Italy. She was named as a team captain for the Mexican U20 National Lacrosse team for the U20 Women's World Championship played in Hong Kong in August!



CLASS OF 1974: GOLDEN GRADS

We honored the “Golden Grads” from the Class of 1974 at this year's 2024 Commencement Ceremony on May 23.

ALUMNAE IMPACT STORY

ASHLEY KYALWAZI '14

BY FRANCES WANG '10



"I kind of always had that picture in my head." For Ashley Kyalwazi '14, that picture has only gotten clearer with time. Have one conversation with her, and you'll also see that she looks at the bigger picture in just about every aspect of life. "I've been interested in medicine since I was a young kid," Ashley said. The now 28 year old is one of four siblings, the daughter of Michael and Winnie Kyalwazi – both Ugandan immigrants, and the granddaughter of one of the first East African surgeons.

"My dad used to always talk about the work his dad did, the compassion he showed his patients, his clinical expertise, and acumen," Ashley shared. "I wanted to be like my grandfather."

Ashley is well on her way to fulfilling that goal. She graduated from Harvard Medical School, having also completed a Master's in Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, in May. The intertwining of both medicine and public policy was very intentional for Ashley, who has already gained a lot of experience working with local governments on healthcare-related policies. In her first year of medical school, she also started The MV3 Foundation, a national non-profit that guides, inspires, and invests in the development of Black college students pursuing careers in health sciences. "MV3 is a community that I wish I had throughout college, particularly as a first-generation, low-income Black student," Ashley explained.

Looking back, Ashley has a profound appreciation for her parents' hard work and relentlessness despite their financial struggles early on. When Ashley's father didn't have the money to complete a Business degree, he pivoted to working in the food service industry to provide for his family. He and Ashley's mother started a small café, where Ashley and all her siblings worked.

"My parents literally built the café from the ground up. I just remember nights where we would take sleeping bags to the café," Ashley remembered. "Seeing that process as a young kid and then growing up, I now have a greater understanding of the why behind what they were doing. They gave up a lot in their own personal lives to give my siblings and me the opportunity to pursue an education in the US."

Ashley and her sisters graduated from St. Francis High School a year apart. Her brothers are Jesuit alums. Ashley was a very involved Troubie, playing two sports (basketball and soccer), serving as SBO President, and volunteering with Therapeutic Recreational Services. Not only did she manage it

all, but she also graduated at the top of her class and got into the University of Notre Dame. "My parents work hard. That's always the model," Ashley said. "I had to figure out how I can use these opportunities, knowing the investment that my parents have put to get me here."

Ashley was always busy, but she also really enjoyed her time. "What didn't I love? The SF environment, how there was this energy and camaraderie, how the campus culture embraced and embedded in the teachings of Christ as a Catholic institution," Ashley said. "But also we're going to go all out for the traditions that we have, like homecoming week and the other crazy events. Homecoming brings out a side of people that is so chaotic and so beautiful."

Fun fact: you can thank Ashley and her fellow SBO officers for the beloved *SFHS Zoo*. The idea started at Ashley's house during an SBO meeting; the name for St. Francis, patron of animals. "That was a special part of my time there. I loved being in student government, and I'm glad the Zoo is still living on," Ashley said.

Even though Ashley was involved in student government and had some interest in public policy, it wasn't until grad school that she fully realized she would pursue it in her mission of medicine. Through her work, she intends to continue amplifying the voices of marginalized communities impacted by healthcare inequalities.

"I think that the issues our communities face can't be solved within the medical field alone," Ashley explained. "Issues of affordable housing and homelessness, education, and access to affordable health... all of these challenges are intertwined. Policy is a powerful lever that can catalyze meaningful change at a federal, state, and local level."

Ashley began her residency this summer at UCSF, having fallen in love with Internal Medicine over the course of her training at Harvard Medical School. Over the course of her career, she looks forward to integrating clinical practice, public policy, and entrepreneurship to continue advocating for marginalized community.

If Ashley could go back in time and give her St. Francis self some words of advice, what would she say?

"I think we all have a responsibility to put in the work, but at the end of the day, God has a plan for each of us. Trust in that and don't sweat the small stuff. Continue to work hard and leave the rest in God's hand."

A NEW ERA OF ALUMNAE ENGAGEMENT

As St. Francis High School proudly celebrates its 85th year, we marked this milestone with the launch of our new Alumnae Board. This significant initiative reflects our deep commitment to strengthening connections within our alumnae community and celebrating the rich history and ongoing legacy of our school.

This year, we celebrate 85 years of academic excellence, tradition, and sisterhood at St. Francis High School. Over the decades, St. Francis has been home to 12,057 remarkable alums who have made significant impacts in various fields, and we are excited to honor their achievements and contributions through the newly established Alumnae Board.

Our Alumnae Board is designed to foster a deeper connection between our past and present, leveraging the experience and insights of our alumnae to enrich our school community. The board will play a pivotal role in:

- **BUILDING STRONGER CONNECTIONS:** Strengthening the ties between alumnae and with current students, faculty, and staff.
- **SUPPORTING SCHOOL INITIATIVES:** Assisting with school events, programs, and fundraising efforts.
- **CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS:** Recognizing and highlighting the accomplishments of our alumnae.
- **MENTORING AND NETWORKING:** Offering guidance and networking opportunities for current students through Career Day and our LIFT Internship program.

MEET THE BOARD MEMBERS

We are proud to introduce the inaugural members of our Alumnae Board. Their diverse experiences and passionate commitment to St. Francis make them ideal ambassadors for our alumnae community.

Brigget Barrios '08
Jasmine Bernal '07
Kaitlin Caruso '06
Kathryn Cippa Chandler '03
Barbara Ruggiero Ching '01

Sarah Jones Clark '93, P'25
Ria Flores '13
Hannah Gonzales Ramilo '12
Amalia Griego '91
Yukta Gutta '19
Rosie Lucchesini-Jack '90, P'26

Katie Schembri '14
Chelsea Shannon '11
Andrea Soares '09
Melanie Tidgewell Weil '89, P'23
Enid Spitz Wilson '09

GET INVOLVED

We encourage all our alumnae to engage with the board and get involved in the exciting initiatives planned for this milestone year. Whether you are interested in volunteering, participating in events, or simply staying connected, there are many ways you can contribute.

Thank you for being an integral part of our 85-year journey. We look forward to celebrating this milestone with you and working together to create new memories and achievements for our school community.

RIA FLORES '13 - ALUMNA BOARD PRESIDENT

St. Francis was blessed when Ria agreed to serve as President of the newly formed Alumnae Board. Ria shares more about why she was drawn to this volunteer leadership role and her time at St. Francis.

"Saying yes to being on the Alumnae Board was saying yes to God. I built the foundation of my life at St. Francis, and I knew being an active alumna was the best way to give back to the community that helped me build my life. I was giving financially and presenting at career day when I felt God pushing me to do more. I wasn't sure what direction to go in until the opportunity to serve on the Alumnae Board came up. It only felt right to say 'yes' because God has never done me wrong. The past few months I've spent serving on the alumnae board have only further validated that God will never lead us in the wrong direction. I couldn't be more thankful to volunteer alongside such incredible women and to serve the SFHS alumnae community by being on the board."

IN MEMORIAM

St. Francis High School mourns the loss of the following members of our community:

ALUMNAE

Leonore Valerio Keating '44
Ann Moriarty Dawe '45
Elaine McKoy Owens '46
Denise Desmon Franzoia '47
Maxine Babich Knezovich '47
Geraldine Valerio Bagley '48
Mercedes Bidwell Slakey '49
Catherine Gieseke Pisani '50
Jean Tamaki '50
Merlynn Kopp Tucker '50
Marge Wilkins Mugartegui '51
Joanne Moriarty Zickgram '52
Paula Corsiglia '55
Sally Geary Enos '57
Janet Germoles Schnetz '58
Pam Butts '62
Catherine Rendall Roda '65
Susan Rogers Close '67
Rebecca Resendez Doolittle '67
Sandra Jurin '67
Barbara Black Burman '70
Mary Leighton '75
Laurie Gergen Shreffler '80
Teresa Cobain Temp '84
Deborah Stephenson Reed '87
Michele Lira Conrad '91
Irene Say '04
McKayla Beavers '14
Kerie' Green '17

TRUSTEE

Thomas "Tom" Kandris, P'13
Board Member 2011-2016

COMMUNITY MEMBER

Ken Adamson
Barbara Brode, P'02 & '04
James "Jim" Cost, P'07
Lynn Dowdell, P'13, '18, '20
Cathy Lumb Edwards, P'20
Leo Scheuber, GP'23 & '26
Veda Levy, GP'20 & '21
Nelly Patino, P'09 & P'85
L. Kirk Taber, Jr., P'17
Lily Wood, P'26



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For information about important
dates and upcoming events,
please visit our website:
www.stfrancishs.org

Parents of Alumnae:
Please forward this publication and
notify the Advancement Office of the
updated address for your daughter.

LEGACY IN BLOOM

ST. FRANCIS 42ND ANNUAL AUCTION

PRESENTED BY
Ultimate Collision Center | Kelly Zickefoose Frei '02 & Justin Frei

SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 2025 | 6:00PM
\$150 PER PERSON

ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL | 5900 ELVAS AVENUE, SACRAMENTO

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR SPONSORSHIP,
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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
NATALIE ANZINI AT 916-737-5015 OR NANZINI@STFRANCISHS.ORG